



June 2002

ORGANIZATIONS FEATURED

District I – Maricopa County

This is the first in a series dedicated to acknowledging outstanding and innovative volunteer and service organizations. Dianne Wagemann, District I Program Administrator shares the stories of four volunteers and service providers who have made a positive difference in Maricopa County.

Telephone Pioneers Hand Tricycle Program

By Mary Reed, Manager of Volunteer Services, District I

Telephone Pioneers - Hand Tricycle Program is an example of an important volunteer program in District I. The program at no charge, outfits individuals with new tricycles adapted for hand pedaling. The program is provided by a volunteer service organization comprised of retired telephone company employees and their partners. Led by Ken Edie, coordinator of the Hand Tricycle Program, District I has received more than a dozen tricycles over the last 18 months.

The tricycles are a tremendous benefit to children who have little or no use of their legs. Receiving a specially adapted hand tricycle allows the rider to experience the freedom of riding unassisted and to gain the confidence that comes with that

accomplishment. The children really enjoy riding tri-cycles, but more than that, they enjoy the chance to be "one of the gang".

Retail price for an adapted hand tricycle is \$1,200. The Division

and children served by the Division are truly fortunate to be the beneficiaries of the Telephone Pioneers ongoing generous donations. Based on retail price if purchased through a store, the total donation to date for this year is \$14,400.

(More articles on pages 2 and 4.)



SAVE – USE GENERIC DRUGS

Nearly one-half of all prescriptions in the United States are filled with generic drugs. The use of generic drugs is increasing every year, as name brand drugs lose their patents and equivalent less expensive generic drugs are approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Ask your physician and pharmacist if your prescription can be filled with a therapeutically equivalent generic drug.

Information provided courtesy of Walgreens Healthcare Plus, Incorporated.

Ahwatukee Charity Sewers

Knit, Sew, Crochet and Socialize

By Mary Reed, Manager of Volunteer Services, District I

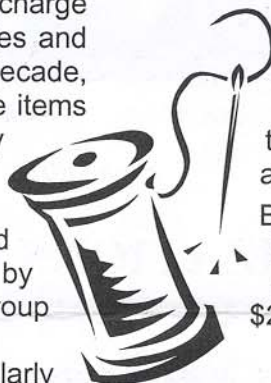
The Ahwatukee Charity Sewers volunteer group is an example of an outstanding organization that provides a service at no charge to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Every year for over a decade, they have donated hundreds of handmade items to the Division. Ahwatukee Charity Sewers is a group of 15 ladies who live in the Ahwatukee area and meet every Monday afternoon to knit, sew, crochet and socialize. The donated items are enjoyed by the very young and individuals living in group homes and in foster care.

Some items these talented sewers regularly make and donate to District I are Afghans, lap

robes, slippers, small pillows, baby dresses, gowns, sweaters, bibs and eyeglass cases.

When the Sewers are asked to make a special item, the request is always well received. They appreciate feedback to learn how they can continue to help individuals and their families.

Based on an equivalent retail price if purchased through a store, the total donation made in February alone was \$2,359.



Mentor of Arizona

A Great Team Player

By Dawn Cernak, West Area Resource Coordinator, District I

Mentor of Arizona has provided valuable support in working with District I to place individuals in adult developmental and child developmental homes. Christine Baine at Mentor has been wonderful. She returns phone calls and follows up with meetings between families and potential providers to assure good matches.

Mentor consistently works with their development home providers to support residents with developmental disabilities. Mentor has provided extra respite services above what is authorized by the Division and they absorbed

the expense within their agency. They have provided respite providers to give families breaks, sometimes at a moment's notice. Also they have helped the Division find emergency placements. Mentor truly is dedicated to their staff and people with developmental disabilities.

Several families have complimented Mentor's good work regarding residential placements that have involved their children or their siblings. Mentor continually makes themselves available to Division support coordinators by informing them of what services can be provided, who to follow up with and what qualified staff are available.

Mentor is a great team player and partner.

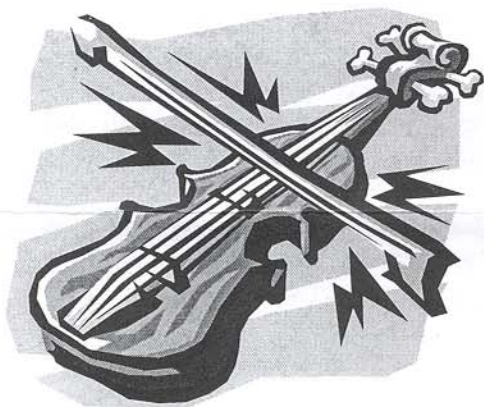
(More articles on pages 1 and 4.)



Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. For example, this means that if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. Please contact 602-542-6825.

Acronym Jingle

Submitted by Gail Gorenstein, Child/Family Services, District II. Gail shares a jingle that staff wrote several years ago and she hopes you enjoy it. Sing the jingle to the tune of *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* or the *ABC Song*.



ISPP, CLS
AFDC, ATF
NICP, UMC
DES and DDD
HCBS, TMC
FAS and FAE

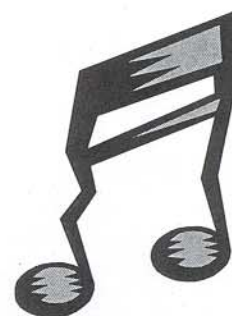
CCRS, SRC
CMG, PHT
TUSD, DM
CMDP, BM
CPS, CAC
SRC and BPD

PEC, CPR
ICF (slash) MR
DTT, UIR
OCC and SPR
PCP, CFS
RSV and all the rest

DDST, OCT
SI, ASDB
ALTCS, UR
(now you've really gone too far)
DDSA, SSI
(let's just give it one more try)

SVS, HMO
(now you're stooping really low)
ATPT, VIP
Chairs made out of PVC
Then there's APIPA
That is all we have to say

Acronyms are quite a breeze
Sing along ASAP

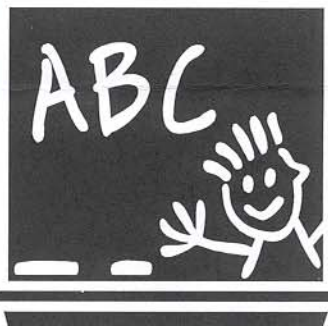


REM-Arizona

Prepared even before contract awarded

By Gina Fancher, Early Intervention Support Coordinator, District I

REM-Arizona is an exceptional service provider in District 1. REM as a new provider for Early Intervention Day Treatment Special Instruction Service (DSI), started by serving 45 Spanish speaking children and families within 30 days of being awarded a contract with the Division. Even before the contract was awarded REM prepared their DSI program approximately one year in advance.



REM participated in the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) Standards of Practice training with some staff completing the training early. Currently a

REM staff serves as one of the first apprentice coaches for the AzEIP Standards of Practice portion of the training. Staff stays active in the AzEIP committee meetings.

REM's staff keeps up with current happenings in the field by participating in various national organizations related to early intervention.

Their policy and procedure handbook for early intervention services was prepared within six months of being awarded a contract with the Division. REM has been extremely responsive to the District's therapy service needs and any requests to improve services delivery. Staff is easy to work with when offering creative and positive ideas to solve issues to improve service delivery.

(More articles on pages 1 and 2.)

Check this out – Camp Friendship 2002

Submitted by Alma Godinez, Summer Student Staff, Central Office

Camp Friendship is sponsored by Friendship Ventures. This privately funded nonprofit agency offers educational, recreational and social programs for people with developmental disabilities. Some upcoming camps are:

August 4-9 - Sibley State Park offers camping, hiking and biking through forest, farmland, prairie knolls and lake;

August 4-9 - Itasca State Park offers biking that explores 16 miles of paved trails between the Headwaters of the Mississippi River and Douglas Lodge.

August 11-16 - Gooseberry State Park offers hiking over hilly terrain viewing spectacular waterfalls, a river gorge, the Lake Superior shoreline and Northwoods wildlife.

Contact Friendship Ventures by mail at 10509 108th Street NW, Annandale, MN 55302, web site at www.friendshipventures.org or phone 800-450-8376.



MONEY AVAILABLE

The Administration for Children and Families has up to \$100,000 in project funds available. The funds are for assistance projects designed to build and support local communities of diverse citizens where individuals with developmental disabilities can feel welcome and able to make contributions. The deadline to request funding is July 24.

Link to the full program description at

www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/add

Once on the homepage click on "ADD Policy, Letters, and Announcements", click on "Current Announcements" and then click on the "PNS Program Announcement for FY 2002".

